

REMARKS

Preliminarily we note that the Action does not include initialed Form PTO-1449 from our Information Disclosure Statement filed May 7, 2002. For the Examiner's convenience, we enclose a copy of that Form PTO-1449 and ask that the Examiner initial each reference and return the initialed Form PTO-1449 to us with his next communication.

Based on the claim amendments above, claims 4-7, 10, and 12-13 are pending. Claims 4, 6 and 12 are the independent claims. Claims 14-20 have been canceled as being directed to a non-elected invention.

The Action states that claims 4-7 and 12-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, we have rewritten claims 4, 6, and 12 to be independent form. The remaining claims that are pending depend from one or more of these independent claims. Therefore we submit that the application is in condition for allowance and we ask the Examiner to allow the case.

Formal drawings are being submitted together with this Reply.


Applicant : Robert Brown et al.
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Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing
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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/29/04



Marc M. Wefers* for
David L. Feigenbaum
Reg. No. 30,378

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

***See attached document certifying that Marc M. Wefers has limited recognition to practice before the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office under 37 C.F.R. § 10.9(b).**